

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00333 311148Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 EUR-12 IO-13 /077 W
-----311213Z 121721 /10

P R 311110Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3511
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0333

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SU, ET
SUBJECT: NIMEIRI CALLS FOR ERITREAN INDEPENDENCE

REF: KHARTOUM 328 (NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. PRESIDENT NIMEIRI MADE MAJOR NEW POLICY STATEMENT RE
ERITREA AT PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 30. HE INDICATED SUDAN
AND ITS PEOPLE WILL HELP ERITREAN PEOPLE QUOTE RESTORE
THEIR LOST RIGHTS UNQUOTE. MORNING PAPERS NEXT DAY
HEADLINED QUOTE SUDAN STANDS WITH ERITREAN PEOPLE'S DESIRE
FOR INDEPENDENCE UNQUOTE. THUS FOR FIRST TIME GOS HAS
PUBLICLY COME OUT IN FAVOR ERITREAN INDEPENDENCE.

2. IN EXPLAINING GOS POLICY, NIMEIRI DESCRIBED HIS
EFFORTS TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH ETHIOPIA OVER ERITREAN
ISSUE AND HOW HE HAD HOPED ETHIOPIAN/ERITREAN DISPUTE COULD
BE SOLVED THROUGH DIALOGUE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KHARTO 00333 311148Z

MANNER SIMILAR TO WHICH SUDAN HAD RESOLVED ITS OWN CIVIL
WAR IN SOUTH. HE SAID HE HAD ALMOST SUCCEEDED DURING REGIME
OF HAILE SELASSIE BUT THEN MILITARY JUNTA TOOK OVER AND
INSISTED ON SOLVING ISSUE THROUGH INDISCRIMINATE
VIOLENCE AGAINST BOTH "ABYSSINIANS" AND ERITREANS. THUS
HIS EFFORTS PERSUADE ETHIOPIANS NOT USE FORCE HAVE FAILED.
FINAL STRAW WAS ATROCIOUS BRUTALITIES CONDUCTED BY EPMG

AGAINST INNOCENT ERITREAN PEOPLE. AFTER STUDYING MATTER CAREFULLY, GOS HAS DETERMINED THAT ERITREAN PEOPLE HAVE JUST CAUSE AND SUDAN IS GOING TO HELP THEM.

3. AMERICAN JOURNALIST ASKED HOW SUDAN COULD SUPPORT ERITREAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN IDEOLOGY BETWEEN ERITREAN REBELS AND GOS. NIMEIRI SAID SUDAN NOT LOOKING AT PROBLEM FROM IDEOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW. HE ADDED THAT SUDAN CONSIDERED NATIONAL MOVEMENTS IN ERITREA MOTIVATED BY TOTAL LIBERATION. HE SAID THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AGREE ON THAT END, BUT DIFFER ON MEANS TO ACHIEVE THAT END. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

4. COMMENT: NIMEIRI'S PRESS CONFERENCE FOR FOREIGN JOURNALISTS COVERING CURRENT SSU CONFERENCE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED BE GIVEN BY MININFO SATURDAY BUT WAS POSTPONED AT LAST MINUTE AND GIVEN BY NIMEIRI NEXT DAY INSTEAD. WE BELIEVE HIS REMARKS WERE TRIGGERED BY ANTI-NIMEIRI STATEMENTS MADE JANUARY 29 BY EPMG CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTI ABOUT WHICH FONMIN MAKKAWI COMPLAINED TO AMBASSADOR FOLLOWING DAY (REFTEL), THOUGH NIMEIRI HAD MADE SIMILAR COMMENTS TO AMBASSADOR IN PRIVATE BEFORE.
BREWER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KHARTO00333
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770033-0858
Format: TEL
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977013/aaaaacki.tel
Line Count: 87
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2b0161d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KHARTOUM 328
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3537848
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIMEIRI CALLS FOR ERITREAN INDEPENDENCE
TAGS: PFOR, SU, ET, ELF, (NIMEIRI, JAFAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2b0161d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009